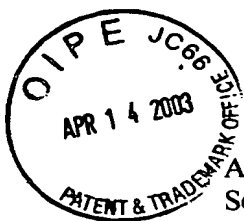


3738

Docket No. JJI-52

#8



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Hikmat Hojeibane
 Serial No. : 09/874,335
 Filed : June 4, 2001
 Title : BIFURCATED AXIALLY FLEXIBLE STENT

Art Unit : 3738
 Examiner : Jackson, Suzette Jamie

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

April 8, 2003
 (Date of Deposit)

Paul A. Colletti
 (Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

(Signature)

April 8, 2003

(Date of Signature)

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Honorable Commissioner of Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action of January 15, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification:

Page 1, line 9, after "filed February 24, 1999," please insert -- now U.S. Patent 6,258,116 --.

Page 1, line 10, after "February 24, 1998" please insert -- now U.S. Patent No 6,017,363 --.

Page 1, line 13, after "1997" please insert -- now U.S. Patent 5,938,682 --.

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 1, 9 and 14.

Please amend the claims as follows:

B